

SOLDIERS DEFEAT UNITED EMPIRES; EL PASO CAN JOIN TEXAS LEAGUE

Civilian Soccer Team Is Handicapped by Absence of One Player and Injury of Another, But Loses Game Only by Narrow Margin; President Informs El Paso of Terms on Which This City Can Join.

ONE of the best soccer matches seen here this season was that played on Sunday afternoon at Rio Grande park between the old rivals, the United Empires and the 14th Infantry. The soldiers emerged with the long end of a 1 to 2 score but they had to play hard for every point.

The Empires were handicapped by the absence, through injuries, of captain H. Day and two other regular players. While Sam Blackburn twisted his knee after the game had been in progress for 15 minutes and had to retire, the Empires played the rest of the game with 16 men.

The soldiers won the toss and kicked with the sun at their backs. They pressed hard but the splendid defensive work of the Empires soon became evident and the play was very fast. The Empires were probably trickier than their opponents but lacked the fine physical condition of the soldiers. With a fierce pace set throughout, physical condition had a lot to do with the verdict.

Ed Gaffney and Ryan were the stars of the army team. Oliver, Mcgridge, Art Spicer and Berley for the civilians. Berley acted as field captain for the Empires and Gaffney for the soldiers.

E. W. Jordan made a good referee, while W. Young and H. Day were the line-men.

Efforts are now being made to stage a double header next Sunday afternoon. The new E. P. & S. W. team is expected to be ready by that time and the 20th Infantry, just back from Arizona, is ready to put a soccer team in the field. It is likely that the two new teams will be matched as one of the attractions for next Sunday while the Empires and 14th will meet in the other contest.

Some time ago, the Texas league put out a feeling that just what El Paso would do in the matter of taking a franchise in that baseball circuit. The attitude of the local fans has not been any too promising and the writer asked J. Walter Morris, president of the Texas league, for an expression of opinion on the El Paso situation.

Mr. Morris has replied that he is not yet ready to give any long interview but states that he is willing to discuss the matter closely and intimates that it may be possible for El Paso to get a Texas league franchise without being called upon to pay any large sum for it.

Mr. Morris refers to the Salt Lake franchise in the Pacific Coast league and from this it is taken that the Texas league would be willing to place a league club in El Paso backed by El Pasoans, but that the franchise would be owned by the league and could be taken away at any time if the attendance did not prove satisfactory.

The Texas league franchise would call for El Paso to foot the extra mileage attendant upon the other teams coming here and also to make good for the loss of two days, coming and going, spent on the road.

Just what will be done by the local fans is a problem but it is evident that a considerable bank roll will be required to finance the club if the Texas league proposition is taken up and there is no certainty that this will be even a full season's investment.

The Texas league needs at least one more good city. Shreveport was a failure this year and Austin is talking of taking back the franchise, but apparently no one has come forward with a bank roll to finance a club in the capital. The Beaumont franchise has also been reported as for sale.

President Morris says he has under consideration an application for an umpire's position from Harry Kane, of this city, but that he will make no appointments until after the Christmas holidays.

The Jockeys and valets from the Juarez race track are to engage in a baseball game at Rio Grande park this afternoon. They were booked to play last Monday but rain interfered with the plans.

The Jockeys have engaged Johnny Hayes, formerly a star rider, to bend the ball over the home plate and Johnny says that he will prove himself to be an even better pitcher than he is an outfielder.

Attendance at the soccer matches at Rio Grande park is showing a healthy increase every time. The United Empires and the 14th Infantry deserve credit for producing a new game under rather adverse conditions.

TAKING THE JOY OUT OF LIFE--BRIGGS



"BECK'S" AMEN CORNER

BY "BECK."

TOMMY BURNS and Dominick Tortorich, the two New Orleans promoters, have broken their partnership. Tortorich will handle the Fulton-Willard match though Burns will have an interest in it. Burns takes over the arena where fights are now being held. Tortorich asserts that Burns wasn't popular with either fighters or managers because he "shaved too close" on the terms.

BASKETBALL of the senior variety gets going next Saturday night when the New Mexico "Aggies" play the Cactus five at the Y. M. C. A. Don't forget that the game starts at 8 o'clock.

BARNEY OLDFIELD has been experimenting with foreign racing cars all season but with only fair success. Barney has gone back to his old Fiat Cyclone and had it overhauled. The motor was taken out and a Mercer motor substituted. Parts of other racing machines have been used to build up the old car and Barney asserts that he now has a real speed marvel.

WHAT about that Texas league franchise? A letter from president J. Walter Morris makes it evident that the league wants El Paso—under its own conditions. The question is whether El Paso wants a franchise under those conditions. If we want it, then it is time to get busy and make some financial talk.

ONCE more he's done it! Yes, Walter Camp has again announced his definite retirement from football and Yale is in the usual mourning.

SOCCER draws better every week and with two more teams announced as ready to enter the league next Sunday, the sport is likely to be a very popular one here during the winter months. If decent support is given the local clubs, arrangements will be made to bring some of the best teams in the southwest here for exhibition games.

ARE there any middle distance runners in El Paso? If so, it wouldn't be a bad idea for the Y. M. C. A. or some club to arrange for a ten-mile race for New Year's morning. These races are a big stunt in other cities and would help create interest in clean athletics here.

OLD time athletes cannot recall the time when there was so much traveling done by teams of all kinds for intersection contests. It is only within the past decade that these events have become general.

THE trip of the Stanford crew to Poughkeepsie last spring, the invasion of Michigan by the Oregon Agricultural college, and the western trip of Syracuse university are some of the more recent ones which come to mind.

NATIVE SONS BEATEN IN TEMPE AT BASKETBALL. Tempe, Ariz., Dec. 12.—Invading the Salt river valley was a bad move on the part of the Native Sons of San Francisco, a champion basketball team on route from San Francisco to New York. After being defeated by the Mesa high school the Native Sons came to Tempe and lost to the Normal by a 16 to 11. The visitors were in poor condition and became fatigued in the first half.

DEACON JONES is a fightah. He was small, very small, and he was colored. Mr. Jones had a liking for liquor, also. He had retired from the ring years before in Frisco, and was now a gentleman of leisure, picking up a stray job here and there, and with the proceeds indulged in his favorite indoor sport, licking up the odds.

One night (the night of the earthquake in Frisco) Mr. Jones had acquired a beautiful pot after working 10 or 15 gin mills. Late in the morning he strolled into the little saloon owned by Alec Greggains, down on Sixth street. He knew the barkeep, and the latter knew the deacon. Our colored runt asked for a drink, and was refused.

He asked again, again and AGAIN. He finally grabbed hold of the bar with both hands and DEMANDED a powder.

Still the drink was not served. "If you doan han' me a drink I'll pull dis bar right ova," piped the deacon, and he gave a yank.

With that there was an awful roar; down came the bar, the ceiling, the bottles and the walls. (It was at that moment that the earthquake arrived.)

Eight hours later the deacon was dragged from the ruins and taken to a hospital. When he recovered his senses he looked up at the doctor and whispered: "Say, Mr. Greggains must be awful sore at me, eh?"

IF YOU DON'T GIMME LIQUOR, AH PULL DIS BAR DOWN. GET THE AIN.

DEACON JONES THREATENED THE BARKEEP AT ALEC GREGGAINS' GIN MILL.

TWO FOOTBALL RULES FOOLISH; ONE YEAR RESIDENCE IS ONE

Inability of Some Colleges to Play Freshmen Is Hardship to Them; to Others It Is an Advantage; Rule Is Designed to Bar "Ringers", But Merely Gives Year of Additional Coaching, Conditioning.

BY FRANK G. MENKE.

NEW YORK, Dec. 12.—There is so much inconsistency in the rules and regulations and govern the "playing" of men on the big college elevens that they really are laughable. Take the one year residence rule for instance. The big colleges like Yale, Harvard, etc., do not permit freshmen to play on the varsity until his sophomore year. Those "higher institutions of learning" frown upon any private college that plays freshmen. They make the seemingly absurd claim that it is unfair to play a freshman.

Now when you look at the thing from the other side, it seems that the college that does play freshmen is at a disadvantage—not the player, the coach, doesn't. The older we grow the more we know—or ought to know. A football sink who has spent a year in college under the tutelage of the coaches who has had a year in which to study "big league" football methods surely ought to know more about the game in his second college year than he did the year before when he came fresh from the high or prep school "bushes."

Boys gradually grow bigger and huskier between the ages of 18 and 21. That makes it a cinch, doesn't it, that a 19 year old sophomore is stronger, heavier, taller and therefore more valuable to his team than is an 18 year old freshman?

Hold Ringers One Year. The fundamental reason for the adoption of that so-called "freshmen-on-varsity" teams is a farce in itself. The (Continued on next page.)

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Many Criticise Deposing of Dillon Callahan Will Now Lead the Angels

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF., Dec. 13.—The fact that Frank Dillon, for 10 years manager of the Los Angeles team of the Pacific Coast league has been deposed, has resulted in a lot of criticism among the friends of the veteran. That Dillon, as they point out, is one of the most popular baseball men on the coast is not denied. Admirers of "The Old Gray Fox" point to the consistently good average standing of the Angels under his leadership, which includes four championships. Also, they argue, no team manager on the coast can show anything in the way of "inside" baseball that Dillon does not know by heart.

James Callahan, the former Sox manager, who supplanted Dillon, passed through El Paso on his way to the coast. He is said to have been given full authority in the matter of disposing of and signing up players, and will begin at once to build up his baseball machine for the coming season. He has the reputation of being a "driver" on the field, and the owners of the southern club figure that he can give additional impetus to the team.

The recent invitational tennis tournament held at Long Beach has come in for considerable condemnation by both public and the sporting writers. Among the stars of the first magnitude who appeared were William Johnston, the national champion, Maurice McLoughlin, the former titleholder, Thos. C. Bundy, Miss Molla Bjurstedt, the national woman champion, Miss Mary K. Brown, three times older of the title, and Mrs. May Sutton Bundy, another former national.

According to these critics, the women were the only ones who played up to form and gave a good accounting of themselves. Too much tennis is given as the reason for the indifferent showing of the men. It is pointed out that

after a strenuous summer campaign, there is such a thing as a surfeit of the game, and that these past season matches are more likely to do the players harm than good, by making them stale.

The New Year's day game scheduled at Pasadena between the Brown university football team of Providence, R. I. and Washington State college is said to create an American long distance record which it seems unlikely ever will be broken when the distance traveled by the two teams is considered. Brown travels from the Atlantic to the Pacific to fulfill its engagement, while Washington rims the country from north to south.

As an attraction, it is believed by many to be ahead of other inter-collegiate games that have been played here this season. The Oregon Agricultural college which defeated the Michigan Aggies and lost to Syracuse must be rated here as inferior to either Washington state or the University of Oregon, as result of defeat at the hands of both Washington State on the other hand, is a claimant of the coast championship which remains undecided between it and the University of Washington.

Brown university, while hardly figuring among the first water teams, according to critics, has a fair record, including a victory over the much defeated Yale. Syracuse, which held Princeton to a 3-0 score won from Brown only by the narrow margin of a single touchdown, 6-0.

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